



STATE OF TENNESSEE

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE REVIEW

Let's get ready!!

Updated: 1/9/19

Putting the pieces together ...



CFSR history lesson ...

- The Social Security Act of 1935 provides funding for state public child welfare organizations through Titles IV-B and IV-E.
- Amendments made to the Social Security Act in 1994 authorized the United States Department of Health and Human Services to review the performance of state public child welfare organizations to ensure conformity with all requirements of Titles IV-B and IV-E.
- The Children's Bureau published a final rule in the Federal Register in 2000 establishing how conformity to federal standards are determined.
- The CFSR process is established as one of the primary tools to measure conformity.
- The first round of CFSR Reviews were completed by 2004. The second round by 2010. Round three was completed in 2018.

CFS-101 Funding

- SSA Title IV-B Part I: Child Welfare Funding
- SSA Title IV-B Part II: Safe and Stable Families Funding (*Family Preservation Services/Family Support Services/Time Limited Family Reunification Services/Adoption Promotion and Support/Planning*)
- MCV: Monthly Caseworker Visits
- CAPTA: Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
- Chafee: Independent Living
- ETV: Education and Training Voucher

Other Funding Sources:

- SSA Title IV-E (IV-E Plan)
- Tennessee State Appropriations

The CFSR process ...

- **CFSP:** The CFSP is a “strategic plan” that sets forth a state’s vision and goals to strengthen its child welfare system. The plan is submitted to the Children’s Bureau every 5 years and reported on each year in order to receive federal funding. The current CFSP expires June 30, 2019. The 2019-2024 CFSP must be approved by the Children’s Bureau prior to July 1, 2019. (Child and Family Service Plan)
- **APSR:** Provides annual updates on the progress made toward the CFSP. Completion of the APSR satisfies the Federal regulations by providing updates on a State’s annual progress for the previous fiscal year and planned activities for the upcoming fiscal year. (Annual Program Service Review)
- **CFSR:** A review process including an assessment and case reviews for the Children’s Bureau to monitor state child welfare programs and compliance with federal regulations.

Who's Who

- United States Department of Health and Human Services
- Administration on Children and Families
- The Children's Bureau
- Tennessee is part of Children's Bureau Region 4
- Regional Office – Atlanta (*Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi*)
- Child and Family Service Review Office – Washington D.C. (Jim Gregory – Program Specialist assigned to Tennessee)
- Regional Office (Shalonda Cawthon – Region 4 Program Manager (former TN DCS employee)/Antonette Rollins – Program Specialist assigned to Tennessee)
- Capacity Building Center (Jaqueline Melton – Program Specialist assigned to Tennessee)
- MASC Committee
- JBS International (Jennifer Kohler – Program Specialist assigned to Tennessee)
- Stakeholder Groups

Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR)

Three of the primary goals of the CFSR process are to:

- Ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements
- Determine what is happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services
- Assist states in enhancing their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes

Outcomes and Systemic Factors

Outcomes:

- Safety
- Permanency
- Well-being

The Seven Systemic Factors:

- Statewide Information System
- Case Review System
- Quality Assurance System
- Staff and Provider Training
- Service Array and Resource Development
- Agency Responsiveness to the Community
- Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR)

- The Children's Bureau provided States with an option to conduct their own case reviews.
- Tennessee selected to do the "state conducted" approach, as this will provide a more representative snapshot of the work being done across all regions.

The CFSR is a three-stage process:

- The Statewide Assessment
 - Onsite Case Reviews
- Performance Improvement Plan

Information from the Statewide Assessment and case reviews will form our Program Improvement Plan (PIP).

Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR)

For the **Statewide Assessment**:

- The Children's Bureau sent the state a data profile in October 2016 that contained aggregate data on the state's foster care and in-home services population. (Note: Children's Bureau is currently modifying the state data profile algorithms for all states)
- The State evaluated outcomes and systemic factors on the data profile with program staff to develop the Statewide Assessment.
- Children's Bureau and JBS evaluated systemic factors through focus groups with Stakeholders during June 2017.

Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR)

For the Onsite Case Review Process:

- The State submitted a letter of intent to the Children's Bureau in December 2015 notifying of the intent to use a "state conducted" approach.
- Three CFSR cases were added to each region's Quality Service Review during the 2015 – 2016 season to prepare for the upcoming review.
- The State developed a CFSR Reviewer training curriculum/plan in May 2016. Trainings began in June 2016. Final approval was obtained in December 2016 from Children's Bureau.
- The State developed a case sampling plan and submitted it to the Children's Bureau Measurement and Sampling Committee (MASC) in July 2016. It received final approval in October 2016.
- The State developed a CFSR plan and manual and submitted it to the Children's Bureau in August 2016. It received final approval in December 2016.

Program Improvement Plan

The results from the Statewide Assessment and Case Reviews of 2017 determine the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) goals and strategies.

Primary Areas for Tennessee PIP:

- Assessment Quality
- Service Array Enhancement

In addition to the PIP, Tennessee must complete a Measurement Plan based on Case Reviews from 2018:

Measurement Plan Items:

Items 2 - 6

Items 12 - 15

CFSR Outcomes and Items

Safety Outcome 1: Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect.

- Item 1: Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of reports of Child Maltreatment

Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

- Item 2: Services to family to protect children in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into Foster Care
- Item 3: Risk and safety assessment and management

- **Permanency Outcome 1:**

Children have permanency and stability in their living situation.

- Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement
- Item 5: Permanency Goal for the child
- Item 6: Achieving reunification, guardianship, adoption, or other planned living arrangement

CFSR Outcomes and Items

Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

- Item 7: Placement with siblings
- Item 8: Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care
- Item 9: Preserving connections
- Item 10: Relative placements
- Item 11: Relationship of child in care with parents

Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

- Item 12: Needs and services of child, parents, and foster care
- Item 13: Child and family involvement in case planning
- Item 14: Caseworker visits with child
- Item 15: Caseworker visits with parents

CFSR Outcomes and Items

Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

- Item 16: Educational Needs of the child

Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

- Item 17: Physical health of the child
- Item 18: Mental and behavioral health of the child

Item Ratings:

- Strength
- Area Needing Improvement (ANI)

Outcome Ratings:

- Substantially Achieved
- Partially Achieved
- Not Achieved

Want to learn more?

The CFSR manual and other guides may be found on the CFSR portal.



Child and Family Services Reviews
Information Portal

Link to: <https://training.cfsrportal.org/resources/3105>

CFSR Team

For information about Tennessee's CFSR process:

Tony Nease, MSSW

Program Director 3/State Liaison Officer

Program Evaluation Team

Office of Continuous Quality Improvement

Tennessee Dept. of Children's Services

Anthony.Nease@tn.gov

Phone: (865) 235-2234



